

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EPA-04 CEQ-01 COME-00 FEA-01

AID-05 CIAE-00 OFA-01 DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02 PA-02

PRS-01 CEA-01 FRB-01 CIEP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04

SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /117 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN;H;PIELMAN:EF:KF

APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:LGRANT

EPA:RPORTER (DRAFT)

CEQ:ELUBENSKY (DRAFT)

COMMERCE:FABBUHL (DRAFT)

EUR/RPE:GWOLFE (DRAFT)

OES/ENP/EN:PGLASOE (DRAFT)

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R 051817Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652:M/A

TAGS:SENV, EEC

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SUBJECT: US-EC ENVIRONMENT MEETING, JULY 7-8

REF: (A) STATE 155443; (B) EC BRUSSELS 10099 (1974)

1. SUMMARY. WASHINGTON MEETINGS WITH STAFF OF EC COMMISSION FEATURED COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF STATE OF ART ON EACH OF AGENDA TOPICS AND RESULTED IN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND PLANS FOR COOPERATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, REVIEW OF FACTORS AFFECTING ENVIRONMENT POLICY, REGISTRATION OF CONCERN BY US ON TRADE/ENVIRONMENT ISSUES, AND AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE FRUITFUL SERIES OF MEETINGS. IN LIGHT INTEREST BOTH SIDES IN MORE EXTENSIVE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS, SUGGESTED NEW FORMAT FOR NEXT MEETING MIGHT BE DISCUSSED WITH EC STAFF. END SUMMARY.

2. PARTICIPANTS. US SIDE INCLUDED EPA ADMINISTRATOR RUSSELL TRAIN, LINDSEY GRANT (STATE), FITZHUGH GREEN (EPA), FOREST ABBUHL (COMMERCE) AND MALCOLM BALDWIN (CEQ). STAFF OF EC COMMISSION REPRESENTED BY M. CARPENTIER, D. HAMMER, P. BOURDEAU, D. VERDIANI, J. JUNGER, W. HUNTER, P. STIEF-TAUCH, AND U. ZITO.

3. GENERAL. US SIDE WARMLY WELCOMED EC REPS, NOTING HIGH POLICY INTEREST IN THESE EXCHANGES AND PRACTICAL VALUE PERIODICALLY OF CONSIDERING RESPECTIVE ASSUMPTIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND PROGRESS IN TECHNICAL FIELDS. OPENING REMARKS BY EC SIDE STRESSED THAT COOPERATION WITH US INVOLVED NOT ONLY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BUT ALSO PROGRAM WHICH MIGHT CONTRIBUTE US EXPERIENCE TO ONGOING EC ACTIVITIES AND ALSO AID EC TO PREPARE SECOND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM AT END 1976. FURTHER NOTED CONCERN WITH BOTH TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL FACTORS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENT POLICY, COMPETING DEMANDS FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND FACT THAT ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES MUST BE ADAPTED TO FIT IN WITH OTHER IMPERATIVES. EPA ADMINISTRATOR TRAIN DESCRIBED A "MIXED PICTURE" IN THE US BUT A FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF THAT ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE EXCEEDED REVERSES IN US ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM. HE NOTED BUDGET OF 112 MILLION DOLLARS TO BE SPENT IN FY 1976 FOR RESEARCH
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ON ENERGY-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.
--EC SIDE NOTED FUNDING OF 40 MILLION DOLLARS FOR FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM AIMED AT DEVELOPING CRITERIA, QUALITY OBJECTIVES, AND ANTI-POLLUTION MEASURES AT SOURCE. FOCUS OF PROGRAM WILL BE RECYCLING, REDUCTION OF MARINE POLLUTION, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS, AND RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING NATIONS. ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE A SURVEY OF INDUSTRIES AND PREPARATION OF AN ECOLOGICAL MAP.

4. POLLUTER PAYS PRINCIPLE. US SIDE STRESSED VIEW THAT ALL OECD COUNTRIES SHOULD ADHERE TO THE POLLUTER PAYS PRINCIPLE (PPP), WHILE EC COMMISSION MEMO (REF B)

WOULD SUGGEST THAT COMMUNITY IS NOT STRINGENTLY DOING SO. INITIAL EC REPLY SUGGESTED THAT THE TWO DELEGATIONS WERE NOT COMPETENT TO TAKE UP THE ISSUE AND THAT SOME OTHER FORUM SUCH AS THE GATT OR A MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE. WITHOUT DEBATE IT WAS AGREED, HOWEVER, TO EXPLORE ISSUE INFORMALLY. EC SAID THAT DISTORTIONS TO TRADE ARE DIFFICULT TO MEASURE, AND THAT IN ANY EVENT US STATES HAVE READILY AVAILABLE MEANS TO GRANT ASSISTANCE TO US EXPORT INDUSTRIES. EC GROUP STRESSED THAT THE TRADE-DISTORTING EFFECTS OF EC ACTIONS WOULD BE LIMITED BY THE FACTS THAT PROPOSED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WOULD BE TAKEN WITHIN SPECIFIC TIME LIMITS, WOULD DECLINE OVER TIME ACCORDING TO STRICT SCHEDULES, AND WOULD APPLY ONLY TO OLD RATHER THAN NEW INDUSTRIES. HAMMER (EC) GAVE A POINT BY POINT DEFENSE OF THE COMMISSION GUIDELINES VIS-A-VIS THE OECD PRINCIPLES. HE POINTED OUT THAT IN HIS VIEW THE ONLY CONFLICT BETWEEN

THE EC FORMULA AND THE OECD PRINCIPLES IS IN FORMER'S ACROSS-THE-BOARD APPLICATION IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES RATHER THAN CASE-BY-CASE JUSTIFICATION FOR EACH "EXCEPTION". STRICTNESS OF OTHER RESTRICTIONS MORE THAN COMPENSATES FOR THIS POLITICALLY NECESSARY COMPROMISE, HE ARGUED.

--CARPENTIER CHANGED THIS LINE OF DISCUSSION IN FACE OF INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN THE CEC AND OECD POSITIONS BY NOTING THAT THE CEC GUIDELINES DO NOT REPRESENT A UNCLASSIFIED

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FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM. RATHER, THE CEC WAS MERELY FULFILLING ITS PROPER FUNCTION TO INTERPRET WHAT STATE AIDS WOULD BE PERMISSIBLE UNDER ARTICLES 92 AND 93 OF THE ROME TREATY. THE EC GROUP AGREED TO REVIEW MEMBER COUNTRY ACTIONS RELATING TO THE PPP AT THE NEXT MEETING WITH THE US. THE US SIDE AGREED TO REVIEW FINANCIAL AIDS PROVIDED HERE.

5. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE FOLLOWING: ON ENERGY-RELATED RESEARCH, TWO SIDES AGREED TO CONTINUE ACTIVE EXCHANGE OF TECHNICAL REPORTS, INCLUDING DATA ON FUEL DESULPHURIZATION AND COOLING PLANTS AND RESULTS OF CEC SYMPOSIUM ON CARBON MONOXIDE. TWO GROUPS WILL CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF INITIATING JOINT STUDY OF HEALTH EFFECTS MONITORING METHODOLOGIES. IN RESPONSE TO STRONG US INTEREST, EC GROUP AGREED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION RE MODELS FOR EC STUDY ON CONTRIBUTION OF AUTOMOTIVE LEAD TO BLOODLEAD LEVELS. FULL DETAILS CONCERNING TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WILL BE POUCHED TO MISSION.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS (EIS). EC GROUP WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN US EXPERIENCE WITH EIS AS

COMMISSION PLANS TO DEVELOP COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES WITHIN NEXT FEW YEARS. HAMMER WILL VISIT US SHORTLY TO CONTINUE STUDY OF US EXPERIENCE IN EIS PREPARATION AND USE (REF STATE 172873).

7. AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING. IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THE NEXT MEETING SHOULD BE HELD IN BRUSSELS IN MID-NOVEMBER TO COINCIDE WITH THE OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS WERE:

- DOSE EFFECT RESULTS OF PHOTOCHEMICAL OXIDANTS
- DRINKING WATER/HARDNESS OF WATER
- RECYCLING OF MUNICIPAL WASTES
- REMOTE SENSING OF AIR POLLUTION
- URBAN SPRAWL

(FYI. POSSIBILITY OF DISCUSSING PRESERVATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES WAS SUGGESTED BY US SIDE AT MEETING BUT IN VIEW OF CONSIDERATIONS IN STATE 170560, WE DO NOT EXPECT TO RAISE IT IN AN EC FORUM UNTIL EC RELATION-UNCLASSIFIED

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SHIP TO RATIFICATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES CONVENTION BECOMES CLEARER. END FYI)

8. MEETING FORMAT. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR INCREASED TECHNICAL CONTACTS, WHICH WOULD MAKE MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF EXPERT'S TIME AND WOULD SPARE FULL PLENARY NEED FOR EXTENSIVE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS. TO EFFECT THIS, ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE TO MAINTAIN CURRENT DURATION OF MEETINGS, 2 TO 3 DAYS, BUT PROVIDE THAT AFTER BRIEF FORMAL OPENING ON FIRST DAY, TECHNICAL EXPERTS WOULD MEET SEPARATELY BALANCE OF DAY. PLENARY SESSIONS NEXT DAY OR TWO WOULD RECEIVE SUMMARY REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXPERTS WHICH WOULD THEN BE CONSIDERED BY ENTIRE GROUP. FINAL DECISIONS RE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS AND NATURE OF JOINT MEETING REPORT WOULD BE DECIDED IN PLENARY.

9. MISSION ACTION. REQUEST MISSION EXPLORE REVISED FORMAT NOTED PARA 8 WITH APPROPRIATE COMMISSION STAFF. MISSION COMMENTS ON PROPOSED AGENDA WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL. KISSINGER

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